

AMENDED IN ASSEMBLY APRIL 24, 2007

CALIFORNIA LEGISLATURE—2007–08 REGULAR SESSION

ASSEMBLY BILL

No. 1244

Introduced by Assembly Member Adams

February 23, 2007

An act to ~~amend Section 21115 of~~ *add Section 21115.3 to* the Vehicle Code, relating to vehicles.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

AB 1244, as amended, Adams. Golf carts.

~~Existing~~

(1) Existing law authorizes a city or county to designate a highway or a portion of a highway under its jurisdiction that is located adjacent to, or provides access to, a specifically described golf course, for the combined use of regular vehicular traffic and golf carts.

~~This bill would extend this authority to the designation by a city or county of~~ *authorize the City of La Verne to designate* a highway, or portion of a highway, for combined vehicle and golf cart usage ~~of a, if the highway that~~ *is located adjacent to, or provides access to, a public or private university or college or a retirement community, and if other specified requirements are met. The city would be authorized to prescribe rules and regulations pertaining to that designation, but the bill would provide that those rules and regulations are not effective until appropriate signs are posted along the affected highway.*

~~The bill would impose equipment requirements for golf carts driven upon a highway pursuant to those authorizations that authorization.~~

~~Because a violation of the equipment requirements and the associated rules and regulations adopted by the local authority would be an~~

infraction, the bill would impose a state-mandated local program by creating new crimes.

The

(2) *The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.*

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: yes.
State-mandated local program: yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

1 *SECTION 1. Section 21115.3 is added to the Vehicle Code, to*
2 *read:*

3 *21115.3. (a) The City of La Verne may, by resolution or*
4 *ordinance, designate a highway or portion of the highway for the*
5 *combined use of regular vehicular traffic and golf carts, and*
6 *prescribe rules and regulations that shall have the force of law,*
7 *if all of the following conditions are met:*

8 *(1) The city finds that a highway under its jurisdiction is located*
9 *adjacent to, or provides access to, a public or private university*
10 *or college or a retirement community, that the maintenance or*
11 *security of the campus or community requires employees of that*
12 *campus or community to travel on the highway with golf carts,*
13 *and that the highway is suitable to safely permit the use of regular*
14 *vehicular traffic and also the driving of golf carts.*

15 *(2) The designated highway or portion of the highway does not*
16 *extend for more than one mile. The finding of the city in this respect*
17 *is conclusive.*

18 *(b) Upon a designation authorized by subdivision (a) becoming*
19 *effective, it shall be lawful to drive a golf cart equipped with a*
20 *windshield, headlights, taillights, brakelights, turn signals, and*
21 *seat belts upon the designated highway or portion of the highway*
22 *in accordance with the prescribed rules and regulations. The rules*
23 *and regulations may establish crossing zones and speed limits and*
24 *other operating standards, but shall not require that a golf cart*
25 *conform to any requirements of this code with respect to*
26 *registration, licensing, or equipment, except that if operated during*

1 darkness the golf cart shall be subject to the provisions of Section
2 24001.5 regarding equipment.

3 (c) The rules and regulations described in subdivisions (a) and
4 (b) shall not be effective until appropriate signs giving notice
5 thereof are posted along the affected highway.

6 (d) For purposes of this section, a golf cart includes a low-speed
7 vehicle.

8 SEC. 2. The Legislature finds and declares that a special law
9 is necessary and that a general law cannot be made applicable
10 within the meaning of Section 16 of Article IV of the California
11 Constitution because of unique circumstances pertaining to higher
12 education and retirement communities in the City of La Verne.

13 SEC. 3. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to
14 Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because
15 the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school
16 district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or
17 infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty
18 for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of
19 the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within
20 the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California
21 Constitution.

22 SECTION 1. ~~Section 21115 of the Vehicle Code is amended~~
23 ~~to read:~~

24 ~~21115. (a) A local authority may, by resolution or ordinance,~~
25 ~~designate a highway or portion of the highway for the combined~~
26 ~~use of regular vehicular traffic and golf carts and prescribe rules~~
27 ~~and regulations that shall have the force of law, if the local~~
28 ~~authority finds that the highway under its jurisdiction is located~~
29 ~~adjacent to, or provides access to, either of the following:~~

30 ~~(1) A golf course and between the golf course and the place~~
31 ~~where golf carts are parked or stored or is within or bounded by a~~
32 ~~real estate development offering golf facilities and is designed and~~
33 ~~constructed so as to safely permit the use of regular vehicular~~
34 ~~traffic and also the driving of golf carts on the highway.~~

35 ~~(2) A public or private university or college or a retirement~~
36 ~~community if the maintenance or security of the campus or~~
37 ~~community requires employees of that campus or that community~~
38 ~~to travel on the highway with golf carts, and the highway is suitable~~
39 ~~to safely permit the use of regular vehicular traffic and also the~~
40 ~~driving of golf carts.~~

~~(b) A highway shall not be so designated for a distance of more than one mile from the golf course if the highway is not located within a development, campus, or community or beyond the area of a development, campus, or community, provided, the finding of the local authority in this respect shall be conclusive. Upon the designation becoming effective it shall be lawful to drive golf carts equipped with a windshield, headlights, taillights, brakelights, turn signals, and seat belts upon the highway in accordance with the prescribed rules and regulations. The rules and regulations may establish crossing zones and speed limits and other operating standards but shall not require that the golf carts conform to any requirements of this code with respect to registration, licensing, or equipment, except that if operated during darkness the golf cart shall be subject to the provisions of Section 24001.5 regarding equipment.~~

~~(c) The rules and regulations described in subdivisions (a) and (b) shall not be effective until appropriate signs giving notice thereof are posted along the highway affected.~~

~~(d) A “real estate development offering golf facilities,” for purposes of this section, means an area of single-family or multiple-family residences, the owners or occupants of which are eligible for membership in, or the use of, one or more golf courses within the development by virtue of their ownership or occupancy of a residential dwelling unit in the development.~~

~~(e) For purposes of this section, a “golf cart” includes a low-speed vehicle.~~

~~(f) For purposes of this section, “campus” means the grounds and buildings of a university or college.~~

~~(g) For purposes of this section, a “retirement community” is a housing arrangement chosen voluntarily by a person 60 years of age or older, or chosen by an authorized representative of that person, where varying levels of care and services may be provided to that person.~~

~~SEC. 2. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within~~

1 ~~the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California~~
2 ~~Constitution.~~

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